



Arizona Peace Officers Memorial Service

Monday, May 2, 2011

Remarks by Gov. Jan Brewer

We gathered here a year ago -- to honor Arizona's finest -- our fallen peace officers -- those who dedicated their lives to the protection of all of us. They protected ...

- Our parents.
- Our children.
- Our rights.
- Our property.

This evening, we have come again, to pay tribute to them.

But, their lines have grown longer.

We didn't want those lines to grow.

We didn't want more heroes taken from us.

We wanted their amazing courage to keep them safe.

We wanted them to return home safely every night to their families.

We wanted their faithful and loyal devotion to community to be their sturdy shield.

But, sadly -- tragically -- we DID lose some of them.

And, their sacrifice can never be repaid.

The grief that their loss has brought to us can never be forgotten.

But, what we CAN do – what we ARE doing this evening is REMEMBERING -- and giving thanks for these worthy protectors and keepers of the peace.

This evening we fulfill a solemn obligation to say how much we treasure these guardians of justice.

Their lines ARE longer, because their valor never faltered.

Their lines ARE longer because they put on a uniform and said, “We are the ones who will face the dangers that surround you.”

Good shepherds lay down their lives for their flock ...

And, so, this evening, we know we are surrounded by the memories of good shepherds.

This service will close with the hymn “Amazing Grace.”

And, my prayer is that the lyrics from that hymn will send us on our way with God’s grace shining on the memories of all these good shepherds and their families:

The Lord has promised good to me.

His word my hope secures.

He will my shield and portion be,

As long as life endures.

Thank you.